

**In The Claims:**

1.-17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A method for reducing surface fiber prominence in a reinforced composite part made from an epoxy urethane string binder, the method comprising the step of introducing a filler in a first amount to an aqueous chemical treatment bath, wherein said aqueous chemical treatment bath is used to apply a chemical treatment to a fibrous substrate that forms the epoxy urethane string binder, wherein said fibrous substrate comprises a fibrous material in the form of a plurality of continuous strands composed of multiple filaments, wherein a strand input of each of said plurality of continuous strands has a yield of about 3,700 to 7,500 yd/lb.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said first amount of said filler is between approximately 10 and 40 percent of the weight of said chemical treatment bath.

20. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said first amount of said filler is between approximately 15 and 25 percent of the weight of said chemical treatment bath.

21. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said filler is a calcium carbonate filler.

22. (currently amended) A string binder comprising:  
a reinforcing fiber in the form of a plurality of continuous strands composed of multiple filaments, wherein a strand input of each of said plurality of continuous strands has a yield of about 3,700 to 7,500 yd/lb; and

a chemical treatment applied to said reinforcing fiber, wherein said applied chemical treatment is applied as an aqueous treatment comprising an emulsified epoxy resin, a polyurethane dispersion, at least one curing agent, a thickener, water, and a filler.

23. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22, wherein said applied chemical treatment is dried.

24. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said thickener comprises a water soluble polymer.

25. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 1 wherein said thickener comprises an acrylamide polymer.

26. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said thickener comprises Drewfloc 270 acrylamide thickener.

27. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said emulsified epoxy resin comprises Epirez 3456 emulsified epoxy resin.

28. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said polyurethane dispersion comprises Witcobond W290H polyurethane dispersion dispersed in water.

29. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein the applied chemical treatment comprises a mixed aromatic amine curing agent and a cyanoguanidine curing agent.

30. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 29 wherein said mixed aromatic amine curing agent comprises Epicure 3253 and said cyanoguanidine curing agent comprises Amicure CG 1400 cyanoguanidine curing agent.

31. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said filler is selected from the group consisting of a calcium carbonate filler, a silicon dioxide filler, and an aluminum trihydrate filler.

32. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 23 wherein the reinforcing fiber forms a strand having said applied chemical treatment.

33. (previously presented) A reinforcing fiber mat comprising a plurality of said reinforcing fibers of claim 32.

34. (previously presented) A composite comprising a polymer matrix and said reinforcing fiber mat of claim 33.

35. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said filler comprises a calcium carbonate filler.

36. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 35 wherein said calcium carbonate filler comprises Georgia Marble Calwhite II calcium carbonate filler.

37. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said filler comprises between approximately 10 and 40% by weight of said applied chemical treatment.

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38. (previously presented) The string binder of claim 22 wherein said filler comprises between approximately 15 and 25% by weight of said applied chemical treatment.